

City of Redmond Public Works Department
NE 85th Street and 164th Avenue NE
Rechannelization Projects
March 2006



Project Open House

***How are 3 lanes better than 4?
Come find out.....***

We need your ideas on the proposed...

- Change in lane configuration
- Bus stop locations/operations
- Street parking, loading zones, bike lanes

Date: Thursday March 30, 2006

Time: 5-7 PM, presentation at 5:30

Location: Redmond City Hall
15670 NE 85th St

What is proposed?

The City is proposing to change the lane configurations on NE 85th Street (154th to 166th) and 164th Avenue NE (NE 87th to Cleveland) from 4-lanes to 3-lanes (one lane in each direction with a center turn lane). Bike lanes on NE 85th Street will remain.

Why?

The 4 to 3-lane conversions on NE 85th Street and 164th Avenue NE are consistent with the vision of the Transportation Master Plan to make the downtown more of a people place, and to provide real mobility choices. Changing to 3-lanes provides several benefits:

- **More efficient use of existing street width:** provides for other uses
- **Improves mobility:** allows for more efficient operations at intersections
- **Improves safety:** reduces collisions and increases safety for pedestrian crossings
- **Improves transportation choices:** creates a better environment for alternate travel modes
- **Stimulates economic growth:** provides pedestrian supportive environment, loading zones, and on-street parking

Both projects seek to maintain or improve emergency response time, transit operations, and traffic flow.

The 164th Ave NE project will also provide:

- Bike lanes

The NE 85th Street project will also provide:

- On-street parking
- Loading zones for multi-family buildings
- Improved traffic flow near the post office

The above goals can be achieved at a low construction cost, low risk, and low impact.

Project status

The Business Tax Transportation Improvements (BTTI) Advisory Committee recommended funding \$600,000 for design and construction of the rechannelization projects, which was approved by the City Council. Since last fall, staff has been working with a consultant on traffic analysis and conceptual design.

Summary of the traffic analysis

In February, results of the traffic analysis were presented to the City Council. Overall findings indicate that the afternoon peak hour operations (travel time and delay at intersections) are either improved or about the same and non-peak operations are improved both in the short term and in the future (2022).

While it may seem counter-intuitive that operations remain the same when going from 4 to 3-lanes, these results are due mainly to two factors:

- The majority of through traffic currently uses only one lane in each direction
- Intersections can be operated more efficiently in a 3-lane configuration because opposing traffic can move at the same time.

Conceptual design

Options for each corridor have been developed to address bus operations, parking spaces, bike lanes, pedestrian crossings, and turn lanes. The options will be available for comment at the Open House.

Next steps

Following the open house and review of public comments, staff will recommend a preferred design and construction plan to the City Council in May. Council may direct staff to proceed to final design and construction for a) both projects; b) one project; or c) no project.

If directed to proceed, construction for the NE 85th Street project could begin this Fall. Construction of the 164th Avenue NE project will require coordination with the State Department of Transportation and would be scheduled for 2007.

What will the 3-lane streets look like?



Example of an existing street similar to a 3-Lane NE 85th St



Example of an existing street similar to a 3-Lane 164th Ave NE

If you have any comments or questions about this project, please contact: Jeanne Justice at 425.556.2887 or jjjustice@redmond.gov

Information is also available on the web at: www.redmond.gov



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